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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/782,019

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Andreas Bogel

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WIGGIN AND DANA LLP
ATTENTION: PATENT DOCKETING
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EXAMINER

IP, SIKYIN

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/782,019	Applicant(s) BOGEL ET AL.	
	Examiner Sikyin Ip	Art Unit 1793	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-54, 69 and 79-81 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 69 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-54 and 79-81 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 17-54 and 79-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

removing said copper alloy from the first age anneal temperature of 350 °C

The step of “to 900 °C, and subsequently annealing said copper alloy in a second age anneal at a” is not supported by the specification as originally filed.

anneal at 350 °C to 450 °C. The specification describes the claimed process in ¶ [0117], where the alloy was “subjected to a double aging annealing consisting of a first static anneal at 470 °C for one hour followed by a second static anneal at 390 for six hours.” One skilled in the art would understand that the step of removing said copper alloy from the first age anneal temperature of 350 °C to 900 °C, and subsequently annealing said copper alloy in a second age anneal constitute two separate annealing steps. Thus, ”

Applicants argue that “copper alloy in a second age anneal constitute two separate annealing steps. Thus, ” But, applicants’ argument fail to support the step of “removing” because it is also known in the art of cited references that material could be heat treated in same apparatus for different temperatures without removing from said apparatus.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 17-54 and 79-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USP 5370840 to Caron et al (PTO-1449) in view of JP 59-193233 (PTO-1449).

Caron discloses the features including Cr-Cu alloy (col. 4, lines 20-55) and processing steps (col. 7, line 10 to col. 9, line 22). Caron discloses the features substantially as claimed as set forth in the rejection above and forming connectors (col.

2, lines 15-17) except for alloying elements in claim 18. However, JP 59-193233 teaches Sn, Fe, Ti, Ag, Si, and etc elements (pages 12-16) in the same field of endeavor or the analogous metallurgical art. It has been held that combining known ingredient having known functions, to provide a composition having the additive effect of each of the known functions is within realm of performance of ordinary skill artisan. In re Castner, 186 USPQ 213 (217). The use of conventional materials to perform their known functions in a conventional process is obvious. In re Raner, 134 USPQ 343 (CCPA 1962).

With respect to some claims that the steps are in different orders or combining steps that are obvious because of economic effects and/or properties (see JP 59-193233 pages 7-10).

The “removing” step in instant claims 17 and 34 is noted. But, first said “removing” step is new matter and has no support from specification as originally filed. (Examiner reiterates the same reason as set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 112 above. Arguendo said “removing” step has support from specification; it reads on or functions same as adjusting temperatures in the same heating apparatus. Moreover, a two step combination and two obvious process steps is unpatentable when each lends properties to the final product known to be produced when the step is practiced alone, in the absence of evidence of coaction between the steps which produce an obvious result. In re Fortress (CCPA 1966) 369 F2d 1009, 152 USPQ 13.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed February 6, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' argument in paragraph bridging pages 8-9 of instant remarks is noted. But, paragraph [0117] of original specification does not support step of "removing" between aging treatments. Moreover, recited two stages aging read on single aging because the temperature and times are overlapped.

Applicants' argument in page 9, first full paragraph is noted. First, there is no age anneal "26" in Fig 6 of Caron. Applicants may refer age anneals "36" and "40" which are separated by cold roll. But, there is no restriction to exclude any step between claimed first and second aging steps. See *Altiris Inc. v. Symantec Corp.*, 318 F.3d 1363, 1371, 65 USPQ2d 1865, 1869-70 (Fed. Cir. 2003) "(Although the specification discussed only a single embodiment, the court held that it was improper to read a specific order of steps into method claims where, as a matter of logic or grammar, the language of the method claims did not impose a specific order on the performance of the method steps, and the specification did not directly or implicitly require a particular order)". Second, the recited two stages aging read on single stage aging because the temperature and times are overlapped and removed alloy material is put right back to overlapped temperature range.

Applicants' argument in paragraph bridging pages 9-10 of instant remarks is noted. But, the scope of the showing does not commensurate with the scope of the claims. MPEP § 716.02(d), *In re Tiffin*, 448 F.2d 791, 792 (Fed. Cir. 1971), *In re Coleman*, 205 USPQ 1172, *In re Grasselli*, 713 F.2d 731, 743, 218 USPQ 769, 778 (Fed. Cir. 1983), and *In re Greenfield*, 197 USPQ 227. Moreover, mere argument or conclusory statements in the specification is not sufficient. *In re Geisler* (CA FC) 43 USPQ2d 1362 (7/7/1997) and *Ex*

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parte Gelles, 22 USPQ2d, 1318. Unexpected results have not been shown by the Tables 3 and 4 because which fail to compare the claimed subject matter with the closest prior art. In re Burckel, 201 USPQ 67, In re Baxter Travenol Labs., 952 F.2d 388, 392, 21 USPQ2d 1281, 1285 (Fed. Cir. 1991), and In re De Blauwe, 736 F.2d 699, 705, 222 USPQ 191, 196 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Comparison must be done under identical condition except for the novel features of the invention. In re Brown, 173 USPQ 685 and In re Chapman, 148 USPQ 711. The showing of unexpected results must be occurred over the entire claimed range. In re Clemens, 622 F.2d 1029, 206 USPQ 289, 296 (CCPA 1980).

~~Additionally~~, there is nothing in JP 59-193233 to lead one skilled in the art to

Applicants argue that “select a copper alloy containing chromium and silver, and forming the alloy ~~according to~~ .”

But, instant transitional phrase “containing” does not exclude any ingredient from JP 59-193233.

Applicants argue that examples of JP 59-193233 teaches away from claimed Ag. But, it is well settled that the examples of the cited reference are given by way of illustration and not by way of limitation. In re Widmer, 353 F.2d 752, 757, 147 USPQ 518, 523 (CCPA 1965), In re Boe, 148 USPQ 507 (CCPA 1966), and In re Snow, 176 USPQ 328.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Applicant is reminded that when amendment and/or revision is required, applicant should therefore specifically point out the support for any amendments made to the disclosure. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.121; 37 C.F.R. Part §41.37 (c)(1)(v); MPEP §714.02; and MPEP §2411.01(B).

Examiner Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to S. Ip whose telephone number is (571) 272-1241. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 5:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Roy V. King, can be reached on (571)-272-1244.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Sikyin Ip/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1793

April 26, 2009